

In the Office Action, the Examiner requires restriction of the invention to one of the following groups:

Group I: claims 1-7, drawn to an isolated polypeptide β 1,6-N-acetylglucosaminyltransferase and neovascularization accelerator comprising the polypeptide;

Group II: claims 8-13, drawn to a method screening neovascularization inhibitor by using polypeptide;

Group III: claims 14-19, drawn to a compound having neovascularization inhibiting activity; and

Group IV: claims 20-22, drawn to an antibody that binds to the polypeptide and method of using antibody and a kit.

Applicants respectfully elect without traverse the claims corresponding to **Group I** (*i.e.*, claims 1-7) for further prosecution.

Applicants also submit herewith an Information Disclosure Statement and PTO-1449 form reporting search results from a European Search Report. Applicants respectfully request return of an acknowledged copy of the PTO-1449 form with the Office's next responsive action.

Applicants introduce new claim 23. The claim is supported at least by the specification at page 5, lines 5-11, page 15, line 13 to page 16, line 7, and page 17, line 25 to page 19, line 11. Accordingly, Applicants do not believe that any prohibited new matter has been introduced by entry of the above amendment to the claims. Applicants note that this is a process claim that incorporates all the limitations of the elected claims.

CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding Applicants' amendments or response, he is asked to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at (202) 842-8821. Please direct all correspondence to the below-listed address.

In the event that the Office believes that there are fees outstanding in the above-referenced matter and for purposes of maintaining pendency of the application, the Office is authorized to charge the outstanding fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0573. The Office is

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likewise authorized to credit any overpayment to the same Deposit Account Number. The undersigned is signing in her authority under 37 C.F.R. § 1.34(b).

Date: March 16, 2006

Respectfully submitted,


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